

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OREP
SUBJECT: CODEL STONE VISIT TO JAPAN JANUARY 15-21

REF: (A) TOKYO 0664; (B) TOKYO 0753

1. DURING INTENSIVE 6 DAY VISIT SENATOR STONE, LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT BILL PURSLEY, AND SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS STAFF MEMBER ROY WERNER MET WITH MINISTR OF EXTERNAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS USHIBA, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY NAKAGAWA, MOFA OFFICIALS IN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAUS, MITI VICE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS MASUDA, DIET MEMBERS YAMAZAKI, AOI, ETO, HIGAKI, MOURI AND NAKAO ON AGRICULTURAL ISSUES, AND CHAIRMAN TAKEUCHI OF LOWER HOUSE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. CODEL MET WITH STEEL EXECUTIVES OF THE BIG 6, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF FINANCE MINISTRY, TOYOO GYOHTEN: PRESIDENT, POLICY STUDY GROUP, MOTOO SHIMA; PRESIDENT, JAPAN TOBACCO CORPORATION, MINOMATSU IZUMI; PRESIDENT, KYOTO SEIKO CO. UCHIDA; SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER, KURAISHI, AND KEIDANREN ADVISER SHIMOUNICHI. CODEL ALSO MET WITH AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD EMBASSY STAFF, ACCJ BOARD OF GOVERNORS, U.S. AGRICULTURAL COOPERATORS IN JAPAN, USFJ CHIEF OF STAFF MG OTIS LYNN, 5TH AF COL, GLENN NORDIN; MARVIN MCNAIR OF SEALDSWEET AND BOBO EGAN OF D-N-E. MR. WERNER ADDITIONALLY VISITED NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE.

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2. IN MACOO-ECONOMIC AREA SENATOR EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF JAPANESE SITUATION, EMPHASIZING NECESSITY OF MUTUAL AGREEMENT, ESPECIALLY ON AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS, IF GREATER PROBLEM OF US PROTECTIONISM TO BE AVOIDED. SENATOR EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF PROGRESS MADE TO DATE AND HOPE THAT ADDITIONAL IMPORT LIBERATION WOULD OCCUR IN MTN.

3. IN AGRICULTURAL AREA SENATOR DISCUSSED ISSUE OF CITRUS IMPORTS AS PER REFTELS A AND B. ADDITIONALLY, IN MEETINGS WITH BOTH AGRICULTURAL AND NON-AGRICULTURAL LEADERS, WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OFFICIAL CIRCLES, SENATOR STONE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF OPEN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS FOR U.S. AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. HE SAID IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO COUNTER INCREASINGLY POLITICALLY POPULAR TREND TOWARD PROTECTIONISM IN CONGRESS WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL "BOTTOM LINE" ADJUSTMENTS BY JAPAN AND OTHERS. SENATOR SAID HE SUPPORTED COMPLETE REMOVAL OF IMPORT QUOTAS IN PRINCIPLE. THE SENATOR SAID REGARDING ORANGE TRADE THAT AT THE SAME TIME HE WANTED TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD A SOLUTION THAT WOULD NOT IRREPARABLY DAMAGE JAPANESE CITRUS PRODUCERS. AT HIS MEETING WITH AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY MINISTER NAKAGAWA, THE SENATOR GOT A COMMITMENT THAT GOJ WOULD ACTIVELY STUDY POSITIONING THE ANNUAL IMPORT QUOTA INCREASE FOR ORANGES OF 7,500 MT (SEE REF B) DURING APRIL AND MAY WHEN FLORIDA CAN SHIP. THE SENATOR SAID THAT THIS WOULD HELP HIM SUPPORT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED TRADE PACKAGE. THE SENATOR'S SUPPORT ON THE GRAPEFRUIT/DIPHENYL DIFFICULTY WAS MOST HELPFUL, AND A SOLUTION DEVELOPED THAT WAS SATISFACTORY BOTH TO THE U.S. AND JAPAN (SEE REF A).

4. POLITICAL-MILITARY DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON JAPANESE PERCEPTIONS OF KOREAN WITHDRAWAL, USFJ FORCE STRUCTURE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND JSDF MODERNIZATION PLANS. SENATOR EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR JSDF MODERNIZATION WITH CONTEXT OF SECURITY TREATY. HE EMPHASIZED U.S. COMMITMENT TO EAST ASIA AND JAPAN IN PARTICULAR, AND DESIRE FOR READINESS OF U.S. FORCES TO SUPPORT THOSE COMMITMENTS.

5. EMBASSY FEELS CODEL LEFT JAPAN WITH GREATLY ENHANCED APPRECIATION OF POSSIBILITIES FOR THE CONSTRAINTS ON US INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SECURITY RELATIONSHIPS WITH JAPAN AND NORTHEAST ASIA.
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